REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Men Against Violence Against Women

45 River Estate Circular, River Estate, Diego Martin, Trinidad.
Hot Lines: 637-0924, 668-5133. 383-6184 Fax: 637-0924.
Email: mavawsec@yahoo.com. **Web**: www.archive.org/details/@mavawsec.

Dr. Russell Foote, *CHAIRMAN*. Donald Berment, *SECRETARY*. Desmond Persad, *TREASURER*.

Date: **Wed/11/Sept/2019** ***Our Ref.:*** **thanks/1** ***Your Ref:*** **OPM (GCA): 5/6/4 Vol. III**

Ms. Jacqueline Johnson,
Permanent Secretary,
(Gender and Child Affairs),
Office of the Prime Minister
Levels 20-21, Tower D,
International Waterfront Centre,
1A Wrightson Road,
PORT Of Spain.

SUBJECT: **CARICOM (2) Day Workshop on Rethinking Masculinity, Understanding Gender Equality as a Means of Ending Violence in Caribbean Schools.**

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Please accept the deepest thanks from all MAVAW's, for the invitation to attend the historic (2) Day Workshop by the CARICOM Secretariat, with support of your kind Office and the 10th European Development Fund CARIFORUM Project: Support for Crime and Violence Prevention and Social Development.

This in my humble view, was a perfect collaboration by an interisland community, CARICOM and one of the islands in the said community, focusing on this critical issue of Crime and Violence, in the context of the academic concepts of Masculinity, Gender Equality with Equity; highlighting Caribbean Schools as its first area for behaviour change.

Although long in its manifestation as a reality, the potential for establishing a sustainable methodology to accomplish the goals contemplated is so great, as evidenced by the content, Facilitators and all other support personnel, in this first of 5 planned Caribbean Workshops; in the Arnold Thomasos Room (East and West), Office of Trinidad and Tobago's Parliament; that I eagerly look forward to a Network of participants when all CARICOM Member States and its Associate Members, have been engaged, as us.

In fact, this effort to realise violence in schools and elsewhere, is a Disaster so dangerous, that the survival of the human being as a specie is threatened, we have to do more than one by one Workshops, without involving all or as many as possible to be active participants, whether by selected representative presence, recording interacting contributions for further academic study and electronic sharing.

There are 15 CARICOM Members and 5 Associate Members. In addition to the normal Funders of such efforts, we can open Bank Accounts in all Member States in order to collect from their citizens and residents, as little as1.00 dollar, to what they can give, to continue this specific non-violence work.

We cannot face Natural Disasters combined with Social Disasters for many more years without changes.

Yours In Nation Building,

Signed ……Donald Berment, Secretary/Director/Counsellor.